



PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
Crafton, et al.)
Serial No.: 10/686,684)
Filed: October 16, 2003)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
HEAT TREATMENT AND SAND)
REMOVAL FOR CASTINGS)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby voluntarily disclose the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents. References AA-GE were cited in a prior application relied upon by the above-identified application for an earlier filing date. The prior application relied upon is Application Serial No. 10/066,383, filed on January 31, 2002. It is specified in 37 CFR 1.98(d) that a "copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an information disclosure statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, provided the prior application is properly identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120." Therefore please review the parent case for references AA-GE. Only Foreign Patent Documents and Other Document References cited within HA – NH are enclosed herewith.

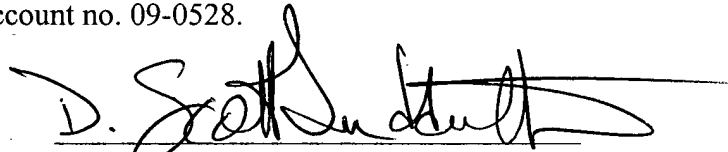
Applicants further reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed information should they be applied as references, and/or to prove that some

of the cited information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be enabling for the teachings they purport to offer. This statement further should not be construed as the representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that the information cited herewith is material, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present Application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the information submitted herein. On the contrary, the Examiner is requested to conduct an independent and thorough review of the information, and to form independent opinions as to their significance.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return copies of the enclosed PTO-1449 and to indicate in the official file wrapper of the above-identified patent application that each item of the cited information has been considered.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to account no. 09-0528.

Date: 01/02/04



D. Scott Sudderth
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 34,026

Customer No. 26158
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC
P.O. Box 7037
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037
(404) 962-7539 (Telephone)
(404) 870-8234 (Facsimile)

Docket No.: C152 1092.1

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

January 6, 2004
Sharon R. Dunn



Form PTO-449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Attorney Docket No.
C152 1092.1Serial No.
10/686,684Applicant
Crafton et al.Filing Date
October 16, 2003

Group

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| | AL | 2074022 | 09/85 | Japan | C21D | 05/00 | | |
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| | AQ | Economical Used Energy Type Continuing Heat Treating Furnace For Aluminum Castings Dogyo - Kanetsu Vol. 21 No. 2 Pages 29-36 - March 1984 |
| | AR | Brochures describing Beardsley & Pipe PNEU-RECLAIM Sand Reclamation Units Prior to August 13, 1992 |
| | AS | Brochure describing Fataluminum Sand Reclamation Units - Prior to August 13, 1992 |

* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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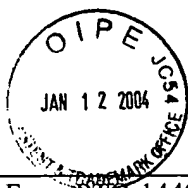
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Sheet 2 of 14

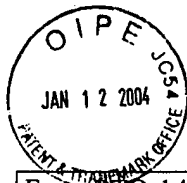
| Form PTO-1449 | | | | Attorney Docket No. C152 1092.1 | | Serial No. 10/686,684 | | |
|--|------|--|-------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | | | | Applicant Crafton et al. | | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date October 16, 2003 | | Group | | |
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| | BA | 4,392,814 | 07/83 | Harding | 431 | 170 | | |
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| | BI | 5,253,698 | 10/93 | Keough et al. | 164 | 269 | | |
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| | BM | 0234810 | 03/85 | USSR | | | | |
| | BN | 6316853 | 01/88 | Japan | | | | |
| | BO | 3206048 | 02/82 | Germany | B22D | 21/04 | | |
| | BP | 2307773 | 02/73 | Germany | B22C | 05/02 | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | BQ | Paul M. Crafton - Heat Treating Aging System Also Permits Core Sand Removal - Reprinted from 09/89 Modern Castings magazine | | | | | | |
| | BR | Sales brochure describing Thermfire Brand Sand Reclamation, Gudgeon Bros., Ltd. believed to be known to others prior to 09/89 | | | | | | |
| | BS | Sales brochure describing Simplicity/Richards Gas-Fired Thermal Reclamation System Simplicity Engineering, Inc. - believed to be known to others prior to 09/89 | | | | | | |
| <p>* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.</p> | | | | | | | | |
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| Form PTO-1449 | | | | Attorney Docket No. C152 1092.1 | | Serial No. 10/686,684 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | Applicant Crafton et al. | | | |
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| | CP | 1569152 | 06/80 | UK | F23G | 7/00 | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | CQ | Sales brochure describing AirTrac Brand Fluidizing Conveyor, Air Trac Systems Corp., believed to be known to others prior to 09/89 | | | | | |
| | CR | Sales brochure describing Fluid Bed Calcifer Thermal Sand Reclamation Systems, Dependable Foundry Equipment Co. - Believed to be known to others prior to 09/89 | | | | | |
| | CS | Foundry Management & Technology - 12/89 - Vol. 117; No. 12; Pg. G3 - Shakeout/Cleaning/ Finishing Brochure | | | | | |
| * EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. | | | | | | | |
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| | DD | 5,018,707 | 05/91 | Hemsath et al. | 266 | 254 | | |
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| | EC | 4,623,400 | 11/86 | Japka et al. | 148 | 6.35 | | |
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| | EH | 4,681,267 | 07/87 | Leidel et al. | 241 | 23 | | |
| | EI | 2,385,962 | 10/45 | C.A. Barnett | 34 | 13 | | |
| | EJ | 5,850,866 | 12/98 | Crafton | 164 | 5 | | |
| | EK | 5,829,509 | 11/98 | Crafton | 164 | 5 | | |
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| | EM | 2104164 | 08/90 | Japan | B22D | 29/00 | | |
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| | FA | 4,177,952 | 12/79 | Rikker | 241 | 40 | | |
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| | FC | 4,499,940 | 02/85 | Hall | 164 | 36 | | |
| | FD | 6,112,803 | 09/00 | Kruger | 164 | 103 | | |
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| | FE | 5825417 | 02/83 | Japan | C21D | 1/00 | | |
| | FF | WO 98/14291 | 04/98 | PCT | B22D | 29/00 | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | | | |
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Attorney Docket No.
C[52 1092.]

Serial No.
10/686,684

Applicant
Crafton et al.

Filing Date
October 16, 2003

Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | HQ | ASM Handbook, Vol. 4, Heat Treating, pp. 465-464, (April 1993) | | | | | | |
| | HR | The Making, Shaping and Treating of Steel, pp. 1267-1276 (10 th Edition - December 1989) | | | | | | |
| | HS | Preliminary Remarks dated 07/30/1991 and filed in Serial No. 07/705,626 | | | | | | |
| * EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. | | | | | | | | |
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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | | Applicant Crafton et al. | | | | | |
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